REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a crossreference to the priority application.

The specification, claims, and Abstract have been amended to be consistent with U.S. practice and eliminate multiple claim dependency. No new matter has been introduced.

Should any issues arise which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone Daniel K. Dorsey (Reg. No. 32,520) at (703) 205-8000 in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Bv /

Charles Gorenstein

Reg. No. 29,271

1907-211P

CG:DKD:rk

DKD

P. O. Box 747.

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000